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Public Invited to Review BLM's OHV Grant Applications

Yuma, Ariz - The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado River District (CRD) and the California Desert District (CDD) is inviting public comments on its draft grant applications being proposed to the State of California's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVR). The draft CRD and CDD applications encompass approximately 35 projects, ranging from facility developments to restoration work proposed throughout CDD's five field offices, the Desert District Office, and along the California side of the Colorado River within the CRD.

BLM's outreach efforts include public meetings and mailings. Copies of the applications will be available on the BLM California Webpage prior to July 1, 2006. Copies of the individual field office applications are also available for review at BLM CDD offices in Barstow, El Centro, Moreno Valley, Needles, Palm Springs, and Ridgecrest, California, and the CRD offices in Lake Havasu and Yuma, Arizona. All public comments received will be forwarded to OHMVR Division as part of the grant packages. Any public comments received prior to close of business July 21, will be included with the application submitted to the OHMVR.

Jim Keeler, BLM Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) coordinator, said the grant applications are an annual process that is a key part of the partnership between BLM and the State of California's Department of Parks and Recreation's OHVMR Division which issues grants to a variety of entities to improve or mitigate OHV recreation in California. Under this process, BLM applies for grants from the OHMVR Division each year to help fund and coordinate its OHV program statewide. The grants support OHV management activities on public lands administered by BLM such as law enforcement, resource protection, planning and monitoring, visitor services, and maintenance.

Further information on the grant process is available on the OHMVR website located at http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1164

For further details on the grant applications, please contact BLM CRD Renewable Resource Advisor, Christine Bates at (928) 505-1306 or email, christine_bates@blm.gov.

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